



## Kenyan Eco-Village Being Built by Slum-Dwellers

A Kenyan eco-village is helping slum dwellers to start new lives and increase their wealth. The community, Kaputei, is being built by former slum residents – some of whom used to beg to survive – and is providing new homes with electricity, running water and services like schools and parks. By building their own homes, with the help of affordable mortgage loans, the residents are able to make a big upgrade to their quality of life while acquiring real wealth.

More than 900 million people – almost a sixth of the world's population – now live in urban slums (UN). This number will double by 2030 as a result of rapid urbanization in developing countries. Already in developing countries 43 per cent of urban dwellers live in slums, and the figure leaps to 78 per cent in the least-developed countries. The UN estimates it will take US \$18 billion a year to improve living conditions for these people – and most of it will have to come from the residents themselves.

Kaputei is a project of Kenya's largest and oldest micro-finance lender, Jamii Bora ([www.jamiibora.org](http://www.jamiibora.org)). Having enjoyed significant success in making loans to over 225,000 people – after starting out in 1999 with loans to just 50 beggars – it realized something on a larger scale was necessary to permanently transform the lives of poor Kenyans.

Jamii Bora's founder, Ingrid Munro, saw the whole atmosphere of the slums as the biggest impediment to long-term life changes. "As long as you are living in the slums, you will never climb out of poverty," she told The Independent newspaper. "Families of course need economic opportunities to rise out of poverty, but what good are they if you are still living in hell?"

Jamii Bora came up with the idea of building an entire community from scratch, and doing it in way that was affordable, ecological and sustainable, while building the wealth of the residents. Since 2007, the project has provided homes for 50 families; the target is to have homes for 2,000.

One former beggar who has built her own home is Clarice Adhiambo. An early client of Jamii Bora, she started to learn how to save, reaching her first goal of saving 1,000 Kenyan shillings (US \$12.81). With Jamii Bora's encouragement, she plowed this money back into buying some fish and selling it in the markets. Over time, she was able to grow her efforts until she was a regular market trader, and was borrowing as much as US \$1,900 to fund various slum businesses.

Then came the Kaputei project. It has helped Adhiambo move from a 3 meter by 3 meter tin shack in the Nairobi slum of Soweto to her own home with running water: "So much water," she told The Independent.

The new home is 50 square metres with two bedrooms, a sitting room and a bathroom.

Adhiambo pays US \$36 a month for her mortgage -- more than most people, because she wants to pay it off quickly. That compares to about US \$20 a month in rent paid by many slum dwellers to live in squalor with poor services and quality of life.

Kaputei is a clever community project. Unlike attempts to

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build housing for the poor in isolation, Kaputei is based on neighbourhoods of 250 families each, with common community centres, playgrounds, parks and church halls. There is a town centre, and zones for commercial and industrial enterprises. The project was approved by the Kenyan government in 2004 and has planning permission for 119 hectares. Trees are being planted to provide protection from wind, add beauty, and, in time, to be a source of income or firewood. A wetland is being used to recycle waste water and is being run in partnership with Kenyan universities.

Each house costs US \$1,875 to build. The homes are so cheap because the building materials are assembled in a factory on site, and the families help with the building.

Three house models are available and the families – from the Kamba, Kikuyu, Luo and Maasai peoples – choose the one they like by viewing show homes on site. Each home has access to roads, water and sewage.

It's estimated the entire community of 2,000 families will cost US \$3,750,000 for the homes, and another US \$3,750,000 for infrastructure. Mortgages are offered at between 8.5 percent and 10 percent interest and are estimated to take 10 to 15 years to repay. The average mortgage is about US \$32 a month.

### **Links**

- Builders Without Borders: Is an international network of ecological builders who advocate the use of straw, earth and other local, affordable materials in construction.  
[Website: www.builderswithoutborders.org/](http://www.builderswithoutborders.org/)
- World Hands Project: An NGO specialising in simple building techniques for the poor.  
[Website: www.worldhandsproject.org](http://www.worldhandsproject.org)
- CIDEM and Ecosur specialize in building low-cost community housing using eco-materials. They have projects around the world and are based in Cuba.  
[Website: www.ecosur.org](http://www.ecosur.org)
- The Building and Social Housing Foundation: An independent research organization promoting sustainable development and innovation in housing through collaborative research and knowledge transfer.  
[Website: www.bshf.org](http://www.bshf.org)
- Slum TV: Based deep inside Nairobi's largest slum, Mathare, they have been seeking out the stories of hope where international media only see violence and gloom.  
[Website: www.slum-tv.org](http://www.slum-tv.org)

### **Taxis Promote African Music Beats**

Is South Africa's township music is pounding its way into the global music charts. How has music made in the impoverished townships that are a hangover from decades of apartheid – the country's former racial separation laws, which trapped millions of black South Africans in disenfranchisement and poverty – travelled around the world? By hitching a ride with the country's ubiquitous taxi drivers.

In the age of digital downloads and rampant pirating of music CDs by bootleggers, musicians in the South face an epic struggle to earn income from their music. It's estimated 95 percent of digital downloads of music are unauthorized, with no payment to artists and producers ([www.ifpi.org](http://www.ifpi.org)).

And for musicians and artists from the world's poorest places, who are far out of sight of the mainstream music business, life is even harder. The question remains: what on earth do you do to get heard?

Many South Africans are big fans of European House, a type of dance music. An enterprising group of producers living in the townships of Pretoria started to experiment, taking the House they loved and turning it into something more reflective of where they lived. The result, dubbed Township House, blends the school-of-hard-knocks beats of South African hip-hop, Kwaito, with House music's tempos and electronic sounds.

Being from the townships meant the musicians behind Township House were

frozen out of the mainstream music industry. And as every artist knows, if you can't get heard, then your music will go nowhere. Rejected by radio stations and big record labels, they turned to an unlikely outlet: taxis, the ubiquitous small minibuses that are the only alternative form of transportation for people who do not have a car.

They are heavily used: the University of Pretoria ([www.web.up.ac.za](http://www.web.up.ac.za)) estimates between 5 and 10 million people use minibus taxis every day to get to work or get around.

"In South Africa, the easiest way to the people is through the taxis," musician DJ Qness told CNN.

The vast network of taxis serving the country represent a captive audience of listeners. Many are simply bored as they endure lengthy commutes. The Township House producers handed out compact discs (CDs) of their tracks to taxi drivers to play. They soon had a hit on their hands. But without any presence in record stores people couldn't buy the CDs they wanted. And a new source of income was born for taxi drivers: selling CDs from their taxi stands or roadside stalls.

With appetites whetted for Township House, it started to outsell imported dance music.

The biggest hit maker of this pioneering group was DJ Mujava, whose track Township Funk was a global dance club hit in 2008.

"These people created a demand. The Mujava's 'Township Funk' blew up on the streets and everything went crazy," said Qness, who works for record label Sheer Music.

After all this home-grown success, the record labels jumped in. DJ Mujava landed a record deal with the small label Sheer Music. But the township musicians were still just reaching a local audience. However, by putting together a low-budget video using township dancers, and by posting the video on the YouTube ([www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)) video-sharing website, they attracted the attention of British record labels Warp Records and This is Music, who re-mixed the track for clubs.

The model of using taxis as a music distribution vehicle has been copied by others. Pretoria's Gospel Taxi Club uses the method to promote their religious music. Political parties are also using music CDs to get their message out. Other Pretorian township successes are making waves as well. They include Bojo Mujo and Tembisa Funk by McLloyd.

"By combining the electronic sound from European House with the hard drum and the raw snare they've created something totally unique. You can't find it anywhere in the world -- only in South Africa," said Qness.

### **Links**

- DJ Mujava: Listen to all of DJ Mujava's tracks at his website.  
[Website: www.myspace.com/mujava](http://www.myspace.com/mujava)
- DigiArts Africa: The DigiArts Africa network is a tool to find people working in Digital Arts in Africa and to provide a collaborative working space to promote digital arts in Africa.  
[Website: http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=5346&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=5346&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)
- African Musicians Profiles: A lively website featuring profiles of African musicians by alphabetical listing and also reviews African films.  
[Website: www.africanmusiciansprofiles.com](http://www.africanmusiciansprofiles.com)
- Recording Industry of South Africa (RiSA): RiSA is the main body representing the South African recording industry.  
[Website: www.risa.org.za](http://www.risa.org.za)

### **Successful Fuel-Efficient Cookers Show the Way**

AA Kenyan entrepreneur has cooked up a fuel-efficient stove and oven that uses less of a precious national resource: wood from trees.

Most African households using fuel-burning stoves either cannot afford clean-burning fuels like natural gas or electric stoves, or do not have access to them. They are stuck having to burn wood or other materials like animal dung – collectively called biomass – on open fires.

As well as using up wood and contributing to deforestation, there is another downside to these stoves. The use of polluting fuel-burning stoves by half the world's population – including 80 percent of rural households – is a documented

contribution to a host of health problems. Poor households not only have to contend with the ill health effects of dirty water and poor sanitation, the fumes from burning dung, wood, coal or crop leftovers lead to the global deaths of more than 1.6 million people a year from breathing toxic indoor air (WHO).

Two solutions in Kenya are helping people to cook more efficiently (meaning less time wasted on gathering material to burn, and less fuel used) and reducing cooking time by using heat more effectively.

Invented by Dr Maxwell Kinyanjui, the Kinyanjui Jiko is a fuel-efficient charcoal oven that comes in small, medium and large industrial sizes. Made entirely in Kenya, the ovens are custom designed for a variety of environments, from domestic household use and on-the-go safari models to high-capacity models for micro-enterprises and large institutions. Cooks can use the ovens to bake, toast, steam or boil. And they are 40 percent cheaper than cooking with electricity and between 15 and 20 percent cheaper than gas.

Kinyanjui's Musaki Enterprises Ltd. ([www.reskqu.blogspot.com/2009/01/arboretum-project.html](http://www.reskqu.blogspot.com/2009/01/arboretum-project.html)) has developed a reputation for pioneering work in developing fuel-efficient stoves and ovens. Its most popular success to date has been the Kenya Ceramic Jiko (jiko is Swahili for cooker), or KCJ, a cheap, simple and effective stove. The company was set up in 1992, but has been involved in international aid-funded research and development efforts since the 1980s.

"My dad was on a very good team of highly motivated individuals in the early 80s who developed the stove through pragmatism, logic and good old-fashioned ingenuity," said his son, Teddy Kinyanjui. "He then set up the independent Musaki Enterprises."

The KCJ uses a ceramic liner placed inside a metal container. The metal is usually recycled, often taken from 55 gallon steel drums. The ceramic liner stops the heat energy from simply escaping into the environment and helps to focus the heat on cooking. Simply adding the ceramic liner reduces the stove's fuel consumption by between 25 and 40 percent. The charcoal or wood sits in the ceramic basin and the burnt ash falls through holes in the bottom of the liner.

The stove design was a result of international and Kenyan cooperation, and has become popular in many African countries, including Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Malawi, Niger, Senegal and Sudan. It is used in 50 percent of urban homes in Kenya and 16 percent of rural homes.

Musaki Enterprises say the KCJ stoves on average save between 1 and 1.5 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per stove per year compared to other models. In supermarkets, the KCJs retail for around US \$5 and the Kinyanjui Jiko ovens start at around US \$100. The deployment of the KCJ stoves has helped in slowing the deforestation of the country, but has not been able to bring it to a halt because of population growth and poor re-forestation efforts, says Teddy Kinyanjui.

"The lack of forward planning in tree planting is making firewood and charcoal harder and harder to obtain," he said. "Fossil fuels are unavailable or unaffordable. Tree planting must begin now on a huge scale for people to continue cooking." Teddy won't reveal how profitable the KCJ stoves have been, but says, "I wouldn't have gone to school if they didn't sell well."

"Well, more and more people keep buying the damn things as fast as we can make them, so I think our customers like them," he said. "They really all seem to like that the stoves cook really well for really cheap and are very high quality."

## Links

- A list compiled by Columbia Business School for the Earth Institute of Kenyan renewable energy businesses.  
Website: <http://lightingbop.blogspot.com/2007/02/renewable-energy-companies-in-kenya.html>
- Hugh Allen, Kenya Ceramic Jiko: A Manual for Stove Makers.  
Website: <http://styluspub.com/books/BookDetail.aspx?productID=44978>
- Kammen, D. M. (2000), "Case Study #1: Research, development, and commercialization of the Kenya Ceramic Jiko (KCJ)", in Methodological and Technological Issues in Technology Transfer (Cambridge University Press: New York, Cambridge UK and New York, NY), 383 - 384.
- More information on programmes in Kenya to improve stove energy efficiency.  
Website: [www.hedon.info/BP15:ImprovedStoveProgrammesInKenya](http://www.hedon.info/BP15:ImprovedStoveProgrammesInKenya)

## A New Mobile Phone Aimed at the Poor

TA low-cost Venezuelan mobile phone aimed at the South's poor is proving that South-South technological cooperation works. Packed with features and costing no more than US \$15 – making it one of the cheapest mobile handsets in the world – the phone is aimed at

the fast-growing mobile market across the global South.

The South is a dynamic market and has seen quick acceptance of mobile phones. The number of mobile phone users in the world passed 4 billion in 2008, and the fastest growth was in the South (ITU). The development of inexpensive handsets means the phones will be able to reach even more poor people. And packing these phones with the latest in multimedia capability means the poor will be able to make a technological leap.

The Venezuelan phone is being championed as the world's cheapest mobile phone. It is a bold effort to create an affordable mobile phone packed with features: a camera, WAP internet access (wireless application protocol), FM radio, and MP3 and MP4 players for music and videos.

The phone uses inexpensive parts from China and is assembled in Venezuela. A quarter of the cost of manufacturing the phone is subsidized by the government. Venezuela often uses the profits from its oil industry to subsidize social goals.

The phone was launched on Mother's Day by Venezuela's president Hugo Chavez with a call to his mother. Chavez boasted to the Guardian newspaper: "This telephone will be the biggest seller not only in Venezuela but the world."

With his usual bravado, he said that "whoever doesn't have Vergatorio is nothing" – a statement that has become the marketing slogan for the phone on its website.

The phone already has a waiting list of 10,000 people. The phones are assembled in western Venezuela by Vetelca, a joint state (85 percent) and Chinese (15 percent) company. Vetelca hope to make 600,000 phones in 2009, and to sell more than 2 million in 2011. Exports will first target the Caribbean and then the world.

The desire to spark technological innovation at home is also alive in the Southern African country of Mozambique, which is making the bold move to start manufacturing computers for schools in the country. Like other African countries, Mozambique is connecting schools with computers and the internet. By manufacturing the laptop computers within the country, Mozambiquans are increasing the program's economic benefit to the country, and building advanced technical skills.

Most Southern African countries rely on importing computers, and Rwanda, South Africa and Ethiopia are getting their school computers from the OLPC (One Laptop Per Child) ([www.laptop.org](http://www.laptop.org)) initiative from the United States.

The Mozambique laptops are call Magalrael ([www.portatilmagalhaes.com](http://www.portatilmagalhaes.com)) and are made in partnership with the Mozambican Ministry of Science and Technology ([www.mct.gov.mz/portal/page?\\_pageid=615,1&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](http://www.mct.gov.mz/portal/page?_pageid=615,1&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL)) and Portugal Telecom ([www.telecom.pt/InternetResource/PTSite/PT](http://www.telecom.pt/InternetResource/PTSite/PT)). They come with a 60 gigabyte (GB) hard drive and 2 GB of RAM (memory) and are entirely built in Mozambique.

## Links

- Google Android: Android is a software for mobile phones that allows people to create useful applications (apps) for the phones.  
Website: <http://code.google.com/android/> and [www.android.com](http://www.android.com)
- Kabissa: Space for Change in Africa: An online African web community promoting and supporting the transition to Web 2.0 services in Africa. Offers lots of opportunities to meet people throughout Africa and learn more.  
Website: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=neZZvvnL8Lg>
- Business Fights Poverty: Business Fights Poverty is the free-to-join, fast-growing, international network for professionals passionate about fighting world poverty through good business.  
Website: <http://businessfightspoverty.ning.com/>
- BOP Source is a platform for companies and individuals at the BOP to directly communicate, ultimately fostering close working relationships, and for NGOs and companies to dialogue and form mutually valuable public-private partnerships that serve the BOP.  
Website: <http://bopsource.ning.com/>
- Venezuelan Phone  
Website: [www.vergatorio.com](http://www.vergatorio.com)

## Window on the World

### African Economic Outlook 2009

*Publisher: OECD*

*A unique online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. A few clicks gives access to comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in their social and political contexts. This is the only place where African countries are examined through a common analytical framework, allowing you to compare economic prospects at the regional, sub-regional and country levels.*



[Website: http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/item/default.asp?tttype=2&tid=11700](http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/item/default.asp?tttype=2&tid=11700)

### **Africa's Turn?**

by Edward Miguel, Publisher: MIT Press

*The author tracks a decade of hopeful economic trends throughout sub-Saharan Africa, while nine experts question his optimism.*

[Website: http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/item/default.asp?tttype=2&tid=11700](http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/item/default.asp?tttype=2&tid=11700)

### **Wars, Guns and Votes: Democracy in Dangerous Places**

■ by Paul Collier, Publisher: Bodley Head

[Website: www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

### **The Trouble With Aid: Why Less Could Mean More for Africa**

by Jonathan Glennie, Published: Zed Books.

[Website: www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

### **Immigrants: Your Country Needs Them**

by Philippe Legrain, Publisher: Abacus

[Website: www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

### **Factory Girls: Voices from the Heart of Modern China by Leslie Chang**

Publisher: Picador.

[Website: www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

### **Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics by Yasheng Huang**

Publisher: Cambridge

[Website: www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

### **Meltdown: The End of the Age of Greed**

by Paul Mason, Publisher: Verso

[Website: www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

### **After the Party: Corruption, the ANC and South Africa's Uncertain Future**

by Andrew Feinstein, Publisher: Verso

[Website: www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

### **Tiny Houses by Mimi Zeiger**

Publisher: Rizzoli.

[Website: http://www.rizzoliusa.com/catalog/display.pperl?isbn=9780847832033](http://www.rizzoliusa.com/catalog/display.pperl?isbn=9780847832033)

### **Spirit Level by Richard Wilkinson**

Publisher: Allen Lane

[Website: http://www.guardianbookshop.co.uk/BerteShopWeb/viewProduct.do?ISBN=9781846140396](http://www.guardianbookshop.co.uk/BerteShopWeb/viewProduct.do?ISBN=9781846140396)

### **Capitalism: Beyond the crisis by Amartya Sen**

Publisher: The New York Review of Books.

[Website: http://www.nybooks.com/articles/22490](http://www.nybooks.com/articles/22490)

### **Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on the Developing World: What the G20 Need to Know by the Institute of Development Studies**

Publisher: Allen Lane

[Website: http://www.ids.ac.uk/go/news/ids-research-reveals-the-impact-of-the-global-financial-crisis-on-the-developing-world-what-the-g20-need-to-know](http://www.ids.ac.uk/go/news/ids-research-reveals-the-impact-of-the-global-financial-crisis-on-the-developing-world-what-the-g20-need-to-know)

### **When China Rules the World by Martin Jacques**

Publisher: Penguin

[Website: www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

### **The End of Certainty: Towards a New Internationalism**

by Stephen Chan, Publisher: Zed Books

[Website: www.zedbooks.co.uk/the\\_end\\_of\\_certainty](http://www.zedbooks.co.uk/the_end_of_certainty)

### **Appeal for Help**

MobileActive.org are updating their database of mobile applications used for health, social development, agriculture, advocacy, education, civic media, human rights, and other civil society areas. If you have or are developing a mobile application used in any area of social development, please enter it in the MobileActive database. There is currently no comprehensive database of mobile applications for social development available but they are building it with people's help.

[Website: http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/survey-intro.zgi?p=WEB228VO3HV6D3](http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/survey-intro.zgi?p=WEB228VO3HV6D3)

### **Dead Aid: Why Aid is Not Working and How There Is Another Way for Africa**

By Dambisa Moyo, Publisher: Allen Lane. In Dead Aid

[Website: http://www.deadaid.org/](http://www.deadaid.org/)

## June

**Cities and Climate Change: Responding to an Urgent Agenda***Marseilles, France (28-30 June 2009)*

At a time when climate change is a major priority for the international community, this Symposium aims at pushing forward the research agenda on climate change from a city's perspective. It is structured around five broad research clusters which represent the most relevant issues faced by cities and peri-urban areas on climate change.

Website: [www.urs2009.net/](http://www.urs2009.net/)

## July

**Can Values Make a Difference? Co-operatives moving from the Rochdale Pioneers to the 21st Century***Manchester, UK (1-2 July 2009)*

From its origins in the 19th century the co-operative movement has developed a global presence and reach.

Website: [www.co-op.ac.uk/valuesconference09/](http://www.co-op.ac.uk/valuesconference09/)

**15th Annual International Sustainable Development Research Conference***Utrecht, Netherlands (5-8 July 2009)*

Taking up the global challenge: Focus on implementing practices of sustainable development. Main factors explaining the levels of success. Can they be mainstreamed? Are they sufficiently substantial?

Website: <http://globalchallenge2009.geo.uu.nl/>

**Global Conference on Global Warming***Istanbul, Turkey (5-9 July 2009)*

The primary themes of the conference are global warming and climate change, not only in engineering and science but also in all other disciplines (e.g. ecology, education, social sciences, economics, management, political sciences, and information technology).

Website: [www.gcgw.org](http://www.gcgw.org)

**African Culture and Democratic Dialogue***Potsdam, Germany (24-25 July 2009)*

The aim of this conference is to bring African political migrants and cultural groups together for dialogue to promote community developments in Africa.

Website: <http://www.cagintua.de/>

## August

**International Conference on Public Policy for Sustainable Development***Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (4-5 August 2009)*

The time has come to confront sustainable development from a public policy viewpoint. This conference focuses on how institutions craft, shape, implement and enforce specific policies in addressing the complexities of sustainable development.

Website: [www.inpuma.org.my](http://www.inpuma.org.my)

**Maker Faire Africa***Accra, Ghana (14-16 August 2009)*

A celebration of African ingenuity, innovation and invention. The aim of Maker Faire is to create a space on the continent where Afrigadget-type ([www.afrigadget.com](http://www.afrigadget.com)) innovations, inventions and initiatives can be sought, identified, brought to life, supported, amplified, and propagated. Maker Faire Africa asks the question: "What happens when you put the drivers of ingenious concepts from Mali with those from Ghana and Kenya, and add resources to the mix?"

Website: [www.makerfaireafrica.com](http://www.makerfaireafrica.com)

**United We Stand / Building a Sustainable Economy - Conference & Trade show***Washington DC, USA (18-19 August 2009)*

B2B/B2G Marketing & Networking Event dedicated to businesses, industry leaders, organizations and government officials that will utilize private and government initiatives to create a renewable energy based economy within ten years.

Website: <http://projectgreenamerica.com/>

**Sustainability and Leadership: Making Green Strategies Work for Your Business***Los Angeles, USA (31 August to 11 September 2009)*

An intensive program designed for professionals who are leaders in their organizations and understand the long-term value of incorporating green innovations into their strategy, products, operations, and brand management. This program will introduce new models and tools that support environmental management while enhancing corporate performance.

Website: [www.summer.ucla.edu](http://www.summer.ucla.edu)

## September

### **EABIS Annual Colloquium 2009**

Barcelona, Spain (21-22 September 2009)

This year's Colloquium will focus on the governance of the firm, in the context of new global governance challenges. We also have particular interest in how the role of business in society is likely to change and to what extent governance mechanisms can foster corporate responsibility at the global, company and individual levels.

Website: [www.iese.edu/a](http://www.iese.edu/a)

### **2RENEXPO 2009**

Augsburg, Germany (24-27 September 2009)

International Trade Fair and Conference for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficient Building and Renovation.

Website: [www.renexpo.de](http://www.renexpo.de)

### **2009 Global Youth Enterprise Conference.**

Washington, DC. (September 29-30, 2009)

Making Cents International is pleased to announce the 2009 Global Youth Enterprise Conference that will take place in Washington, DC September 29-30, 2009 at the Cafritz Conference Center. This participatory and demand-driven learning event will convene 35 leading stakeholders in the fields of youth enterprise, employment, livelihood development, microfinance, education, and health. Members of all sectors will share their promising practices, unique approaches, and groundbreaking ideas that help youth develop the necessary skills and opportunities to start their own businesses or seek quality employment. Registration will open January 25th and we invite you to submit a proposal during the Call for Proposals process, which will launch February 16th.

Website: [www.youthenterpriseconference.org](http://www.youthenterpriseconference.org)

## **October**

### **Renewable Energy World Asia 2009**

Bangkok, Thailand (7-9 October 2009)

Renewable Energy World Asia, co-located with POWER-GEN Asia, is a leading conference and exhibition dedicated to the power generation and transmission and distribution industries, attracting 6,000 delegates and attendees from over 50 countries from across South East Asia and around the world.

Website: <http://www.powergenasia.com/index.html>

### **Nominate (or apply to be) a 2009 Pop!Tech Social Innovation Fellow**

Camden, Maine, USA (21-24 October 2009)

You know you want to be a Pop!Tech Fellow. Or you know someone who will want to be. Think you have what it takes to join this select company? Pop!Tech just announced its selection process for up to 15 next-generation world-changing people who are incubating new approaches to some of the world's toughest challenges. Fellows participate in an all-expenses-paid, multi-day intensive development program focused on insights, tools and skills for accelerating and scaling "big bet" innovations in areas like healthcare, energy, development, mobile technology, climate, education, and civic engagement, among others. Fellows receive world-class training in areas like branding, design, measuring impact, media relations, social/Web2.0 media, finance, leadership, digital storytelling and organizational development. These sessions are led by remarkable leaders in these areas.

Website: [www.poptech.org/nominate](http://www.poptech.org/nominate)

### **OECD 3rd World Forum: Charting Progress, Building Visions, Improving Life**

Busan, Korea (27-30 October 2009)

The next World Forum, focused on Charting Progress, Building Visions, Improving Life will attract some 1 500 high level participants with a mixture of politicians and policy makers, opinion leaders, Nobel laureates, statisticians, academics, journalists and representatives of civil society from over 130 countries.

Website: <http://tinyurl.com/chqjll>

## **November**

### **Impact of the Base-of-the-Pyramid Venture**

Delft, Netherlands (16-18 November 2009)

The purpose of this conference is to increase BoP knowledge on value creation and impact assessments by bringing together keynote speakers and delegates from business academia, NGOs and the public sector. The conference will provide a platform to share conceptual and empirical evidence that address ways to better understand and increase the sustainability impacts of BoP ventures in terms of changes in economic, capacity, environmental and relational well-being.

Website: [www.bopimpact.nl](http://www.bopimpact.nl)

### **Appeal for Help**

Delft, Netherlands (16-18 November 2009)

MobileActive.org are updating their database of mobile applications used for health, social development, agriculture, advocacy, education, civic media, human rights, and other civil society areas. If you have or are developing a mobile application used in any area of social development, please enter it in the MobileActive database. There is currently no comprehensive database of mobile applications for social development available but they are building it with people's help.

Website: [www.zoomerang.com](http://www.zoomerang.com)



### Ongoing

#### Grameen Bank Microcredit Training Programs

Website: [www.grameen-info.org](http://www.grameen-info.org)

#### The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Courses

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), one of the USA's best known private universities, has made all 1,800 courses in its curriculum (environmental sciences, computer studies, physics...) available free on-line, using an open source system called OpenCourseWare (OCW). Each month, some 1.5 million surfers, most of them based outside the USA, follow the lessons and lectures in PDF, audio and video formats, some are also translated into French and Portuguese. MIT is working with other universities to help them set up their own OCW.

Website: [ocw.mit.edu](http://ocw.mit.edu)

#### Sustainable Tourism Criteria

The criteria focus on four areas experts recommend as the most critical aspects of sustainable tourism: maximizing tourism's social and economic benefits to local communities; reducing negative impacts on cultural heritage; reducing harm to local environments; and planning for sustainability. The GSTC Partnership is developing educational materials and technical tools to guide hotels and tour operators in implementing the criteria.

Website: [www.sustainableTourismCriteria.org](http://www.sustainableTourismCriteria.org)

#### Two Workshops Offered for Development Practitioners

The community-managed microfinance course deals with providing sustainable financial services for the very poor. Although MFIs are well-established, they have mostly failed to penetrate remote rural areas because the costs are too high and the demand for credit too small. Meanwhile, over the last 15 years, massive, sustainable programmes have emerged that reach this target group at very low cost, based on autonomous, small-scale savings and loan associations. Co-sponsored by the SNHU Community Economic Development Masters Program at the Open University of Tanzania and VSL Associates.

Website: <http://rs6.net>

### Careers

#### Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects.

Website: [www.devex.org](http://www.devex.org)

#### New Website Offers Career Advice to Young Africans

Set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat, [Africancareerguidance.com](http://Africancareerguidance.com) is aimed at providing career guidance to African youth and helping them to link with prospective employers. AfricaRecruit is a human resources organisation that provides skills training for African professionals in the Diaspora and on the continent. The website has an inbuilt email subscriber list for all its users and offers a searchable database of career profiles for job seekers and prospective employers. It also offers skills and interest assessments and advice on CV and résumé preparation. It provides tips about interviewing techniques, as well as information on internship and volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial skills.

Website: [www.africacareerguidance.com](http://www.africacareerguidance.com)

#### African Diaspora Skills Database

This database was compiled to provide an overview of qualified African Diaspora professionals with varied areas of expertise and experience. The African Diaspora contributes substantially to the social, economic and political development of Africa, and this database is set up to further mobilize this considerable potential.

Website: [www.diaspora-centre.org](http://www.diaspora-centre.org)

#### Aid Workers Network (AWN)

Aid Workers Network (AWN) is an online platform for aid, relief and development workers to ask and answer questions of each other, and to exchange resources and information. AWN is registered in the United Kingdom as a charity. You will find discussions about a range of questions and issues on the AWN forum from aid, relief and development workers all over the world and representing a variety of fields, with new threads or responses posted daily. The forum is a great way to get in contact with other aid and development workers in your geographic area or working in a similar area of work.

Website: [www.aidworkers.net](http://www.aidworkers.net)

#### Bizzlounge

Bizzlounge is where people committed to ethical behaviour meet, who want to establish and maintain business contacts in an exclusive and relaxed environment.

Website: [bizzlounge.com](http://bizzlounge.com)

#### Business Action for Africa

Business Action for Africa is a network of businesses and business organisations working collectively to accelerate growth and poverty reduction in Africa.

Website: [businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com](http://businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com)

#### Business Fights Poverty

Business Fights Poverty is a professional network for all those passionate about fighting world poverty through the power of good business.

[Website: businessfightspoverty.ning.com](http://businessfightspoverty.ning.com)

### **Business in Development Network (BiD)**

The BiD Network Foundation runs the BiD Challenge to contribute to sustainable economic development by stimulating entrepreneurship in developing countries.

[Website: www.bidnetwork.org](http://www.bidnetwork.org)

### **Catalogue of Poverty Networks**

UNDP is organizing an online catalogue of Poverty Networks as a means to facilitate access to knowledge and sharing this to a wider audience in 189 countries. Poverty Networks are web-based platforms that provide space for sharing and disseminating development-related information and initiatives. Below you will find information on IPC's collaborating networks, which help foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers, civil society and multilateral organisations.

[Website: www.undp-povertycentre.org](http://www.undp-povertycentre.org)

### **Connections for Development (CfD)**

CfD is a UK, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) led, membership based organisation committed to ensuring that UK BME communities, and the organisations they are involved in, are supported in the process of shaping and delivering policy and projects that affect their countries of origin or interest collectively our world

[Website: www.cfdnetwork.co.uk](http://www.cfdnetwork.co.uk)

### **Development Crossing**

Development Crossing was set up in 2006 by a small group of friends with diverse backgrounds ranging from business consulting to international development. In a world where the environment, corporate responsibility, and sustainable development are becoming increasingly intertwined, our goal was to create a site where individuals that shared our passion could keep up-to-date with relevant happenings in the world and connect with like-minded individuals. The idea behind Development Crossing is to provide a social network that brings together people from a variety of sectors, countries and professions to discuss corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

[Website: www.developmentcrossing.com](http://www.developmentcrossing.com)

### **DevelopmentAid.org**

The one-stop-information-shop for the developmental sector, DevelopmentAid.org is a membership organization that brings together information for developmental professionals, NGOs, consultancy firms and donors.

[Website: www.developmentaid.org](http://www.developmentaid.org)

### **dgCommunities on the Development Gateway**

dgCommunities, a free online service by the Development Gateway Foundation is devoted to knowledge-sharing and collaboration for people working to reduce poverty in the developing world.

[Website: topics.developmentgateway.org](http://topics.developmentgateway.org)

### **Diaspora African Forum**

This Forum exists "to invite and encourage the full participation of Africans in the Diaspora in the building of the African Union, in its capacity as an important part of the Continent". We will provide the vital linkage for Diaspora Africans to become involved in Africa's development as well as reap the fruits of African unity.

[Website: www.diasporafricanforum.org](http://www.diasporafricanforum.org)

### **Eldis Communities**

Eldis aims to share the best in development, policy, practice and research. The Eldis Community is a free on-line community where you can meet others involved in international development and discuss the issues that are important to you.

[Website: community.eldis.org](http://community.eldis.org)

### **Enterprise Development Exchange**

The Enterprise Development Exchange links related communities of practice to advance sustainable poverty eradication. It is facilitated by The SEEP Network through the Value Initiative.

[Website: edexchange.seepnetwork.org](http://edexchange.seepnetwork.org)

### **Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Forum**

The FSN Forum is a global community of FSN practitioners. It bridges the knowledge divide among the different communities involved in FSN policies and strategies - such as academics, researchers and development practitioners - to improve cooperation and impacts; members in many countries across the world's five continents.

[Website: http://km.fao.org/fsn/](http://km.fao.org/fsn/)

### **Global Development Matters**

Global Development Matters is designed to engage U.S. citizens and leaders in examining how rich world policies affect global poverty reduction. There is an Election '08 blog.

[Website: www.globaldevelopmentmatters.org](http://www.globaldevelopmentmatters.org)

### **GTZ-Communities Sustainable Economic Development**

The GTZ-Communities Sustainable Economic Development are open to all practitioners, counterparts, research institutions, donors and interested consultants worldwide facilitating an inter agency exchange of experiences and best practices. This weekly updated website provides you with recent news and lessons learned from GTZ as well as from other development agencies and research institutions in the field of economic development. Its core is a comprehensive database. Participation in this open community is free of charge. However, registration is necessary.

[Website: Africa](#) | [Middle East and North Africa](#) | [Asia](#)

### **LED knowledge**

This website is an online space for sharing the experiences and resources of people and organizations supporting local economic development processes at the local level. LED Knowledge is the result of a joint effort of the ILO-LED programme team based in Geneva, and the ILO training arm, the International Training Centre, based in Turin, Italy.

Website: [www.ledknowledge.org](http://www.ledknowledge.org)

### **Network of Networks Impact Evaluation Initiative (Nonie)**

Nonie is a network of networks for impact evaluation comprised of the DAC Evaluation Network, The United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG), the Evaluation Cooperation Group (ECG), and a fourth network drawn from the regional evaluation associations. Its purpose is to foster a program of impact evaluation activities based on a common understanding of the meaning of impact evaluation and approaches to conducting impact evaluation.

Website: [www.worldbank.org/ieg/nonie/](http://www.worldbank.org/ieg/nonie/)

### **TakingITGlobal.org**

TakingITGlobal.org is an online community that connects youth to find inspiration, access information, get involved, and take action in their local and global communities.

Website: [profiles.takingitglobal.org](http://profiles.takingitglobal.org)

### **XING Group Microfinance Industry**

In this new XING Group, microfinance professionals from all over the globe link and discuss topics of interest. Use this forum to discuss financial technology, find employment, identify training opportunities and events, and share knowledge resources with fellow members of the microfinance industry. XING is an online networking tool to manage all personal contacts and to find interesting new business contacts. It's amazing how quickly it facilitates contact with key people.

Website: [www.xing.com/](http://www.xing.com/)

### **AfDevinfo - African Development Information Service**

AfDevinfo tracks the mechanics of political and economic development across Sub Saharan Africa. They draw together a diverse range of publicly available data and present it as an accessible and ever expanding online database.

Website: [www.afdevinfo.com](http://www.afdevinfo.com)

### **Growing Inclusive Markets (GIM)**

The Growing Inclusive Markets Initiative has created a set of data, information and analytical products that will increase understanding of the markets of the poor, including existing opportunities and challenges.

Website: [www.growinginclusivemarkets.org](http://www.growinginclusivemarkets.org)

## **Fellowship Opportunities**

### **Africa Entrepreneurship Platform**

This ground breaking initiative is created as a forum to showcase innovative ideas and businesses from Africa that have the ability to scale internationally driving job creation and sustainable economic development between Africa and the Americas.

Website: [www.sacca.biz](http://www.sacca.biz)

### **Piramal Foundation in India**

Has established a US \$25,000 prize for ideas that help advance full access to effective public health care in India. The Piramal Prize is a \$25,000 Social Entrepreneurship Competition focused on democratizing health care in India that seeks to encourage and support bold entrepreneurial ideas which can profoundly impact access to higher standards of health for India's rural and marginalized urban communities. The award recognizes high-impact, scalable business models and innovative solutions that directly or indirectly address India's health-care crisis.

Website: [www.piramalprize.org/](http://www.piramalprize.org/)

### **The Pioneers of Prosperity Grant and Award**

This competition is a partnership between the OTF Group and the John F. Templeton Foundation of the United States, and promotes companies in East Africa by identifying local role models that act as examples of sustainable businesses in their country/region. It is open to businesses from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda.

Website: [pioneersofprosperity.org](http://pioneersofprosperity.org)

### **African Writers Fund**

Together with the Ford Foundation, the Fund supports the work of independent creative writers living on the continent. The Fund recognizes the vital role that poets and novelists play in Africa by anticipating and reflecting the cultural, economic and political forces that continuously shape and reshape societies.

Website: [www.trustafrica.org](http://www.trustafrica.org)

### **Joint NAM S&T Centre - ICCS Fellowship Programme**

Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) and International Center for Chemical Sciences (ICCS), (H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Center for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan.

Email: [namstct@vsnl.com](mailto:namstct@vsnl.com)

Website: [www.scidev.net](http://www.scidev.net)

### **Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website**

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects.

[Website: www.devex.org](http://www.devex.org)

### **Oxford Said Business School Youth Business Development Competition**

Open to youth between 16 and 21 across the world, the competition is run by students at Oxford University to promote social enterprise. A prize fund of £2,000 in seed capital is up for grabs. It calls itself the world's first global youth development competition.

[Website: More Information](#)

### **US\$250,000 for Best Lab Design**

AMD and Architecture for Humanity have announced a prize of \$250,000 for the best design for a computer lab that can be adapted and implemented in third-world countries.

[Website: www.openarchitecturenetwork.org](http://www.openarchitecturenetwork.org)

### **PhD Plant Breeding Scholarships at the University of Ghana**

The [University of Ghana](#) has been awarded a project support grant by the [Alliance for a Green Revolution](#) in Africa (a joint venture between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation), for the establishment of a West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). This is available to scientists working at NARIs, universities and international centres in West Africa. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply for a fellowship under this programme.

[Website: www.acci.org.za](http://www.acci.org.za)

### **Institute of Social Studies in The Hague**

A collaboration between 25 international think tanks in international development, [www.focuss.info](http://www.focuss.info) is a search engine for indexing and social book marking online resources in international development.

[Website: http://focuss.info/](http://focuss.info/)

### **Genesis: India's Premier Social Entrepreneurship Competition**

A social entrepreneurship competition aiming to bring together social entrepreneurs, students, NGOs, innovators, incubators, corporations and financiers and encourage them to come up with innovative ideas which are socially relevant and feasible.

[Website: http://genesis.iitm.ac.in](http://genesis.iitm.ac.in)

### **Echoing Green: Social Entrepreneurs Fund**

They are looking for social entrepreneurs developing new solutions to social problems. They are accepting applications for their 2008 fellowships (two-year funding of up to US \$90,000 for 20 entrepreneurs).

[Website: www.echoinggreen.org](http://www.echoinggreen.org)

## **Funding**

### **UNESCO: International Centre for South-South Co-operation in Science, Technology and Innovation**

The International Centre for South-South Co-operation in Science, Technology and Innovation was inaugurated in Kuala Lumpur in May 2008. The centre functions under the auspices of UNESCO. It facilitates the integration of a developmental approach into national science and technology and innovation policies, and provides policy advice. In parallel to organizing capacity-building and the exchange of experience and best practices, the centre conducts research and tackles specific problems in science, technology and innovation policy-making in developing countries.

[Website: www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org)

### **Funding - Google.org**

While SMEs in rich countries represent half of GDP, they are largely absent from the formal economies of developing countries. Today, there are trillions of investment dollars chasing returns and SMEs are a potentially high impact, high return investment. However, only a trickle of this capital currently reaches SMEs in developing countries. Our goal is to increase this flow.

[Website: www.google.org](http://www.google.org)

### **Challenge InnoCentive**

A challenge to the world's inventors to find solutions to real scientific and technological problems affecting the poor and vulnerable.

[Website: http://www.innocentive.com](http://www.innocentive.com)

### **Global Social Benefit Incubator: A US \$20,000 Bottom of the Pyramid Scholarship**

Offered by Santa Clara University's Global Social Benefit Incubator, it selects 15 to 20 enterprises from developing countries and provides an eight-month mentoring process. This ends with a 10-day process in Santa Clara, where entrepreneurs work with their mentors.

[Website: http://www.socialedge.org](http://www.socialedge.org)

## **Job Opportunities**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| ▪ <a href="#">Africa Recruit Job Compendium</a> | ▪ <a href="#">Relief Web Job Compendium (UN OCHA) (1)</a> |
| ▪ <a href="#">Africa Union</a>                  | ▪ <a href="#">Relief Web Job Compendium (UN OCHA) (2)</a> |
| ▪ <a href="#">CARE</a>                          | ▪ <a href="#">Save the Children</a>                       |
| ▪ <a href="#">Christian Children's Fund</a>     | ▪ <a href="#">The Development Executive Group</a>         |
| ▪ <a href="#">ECOWAS</a>                        |   |

- [International Crisis Group](#)
- [International Medical Corps](#)
- [International Rescue Committee](#)
- [Internews](#)
- [IREX](#)
- [Organization for International Migration](#)
- [Oxfam](#)
- [job compendium](#)
- [Trust Africa](#)
- [UN Jobs](#)
- [UNDP](#)
- [UNESCO](#)
- [UNICEF](#)
- [World Bank](#)
- [World Wildlife Fund \(Cameroon\)](#)



Please feel free to send your comments, feedback and/or suggestions to Cosmas Gitta  
[\[cosmas.gitta@undp.org\]](mailto:cosmas.gitta@undp.org) Chief, Division for Policy, Special Unit for South-South Cooperation